Remarks

Currently pending in the application are Claims 1-11. Please cancel claims 6 and 7 without prejudice or disclaimer. The amendments to the claims are supported by the specification and do not add new matter. See page 7, lines 23.

In view of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration by the Examiner, and advancement of the application to allowance.

35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by Maretti (U.S. Pat. No. 5,441,993). Applicants respectfully disagree and traverse this rejection for at least the following reasons.

To anticipate a claim, a reference must teach every element of the claim. See MPEP § 2131; Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F. 2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as contained in the . . . claim.")." (emphasis added) Richardson, 868 F. 2d at 1236.

Applicant respectfully submits that Maretti. does not disclose all the elements recited in the claims in as complete detail as is contained in the claims. Applicant again respectfully submits that Maretti does not teach, among other things, a process for preparing a flexible polyurethane foam by reacting an isocyanate reactive composition with a polyisocyanate-terminated prepolymer having a NCO value of 5-30% by weight as is recited in the rejected claims of the present application. Furthermore, the instant claims recite that the first polyether polyol (i.e. the high EO polyol) and the second polyether polyol (i.e. the low EO polyol) are used in a weight ratio of from 30:70 to 70:30. Applicant respectfully submits that Maretti does not disclose this limitation. Maretti only discloses that the chain extender (3) + the high EO polyol (2) should be 4-20 parts by weight per 100 parts by weight of the low EO polyol (1), the weight ratio of (2) to (3) being in the range from 1:1 to 20:1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests issuance of a Notice of Allowance directed towards claims 1-5 and 8-11. If a telephone conference would expedite the processing of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (281) 719-4803.

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Should any fee be due in connection with the filing of this document, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to deduct said fee from Huntsman Corporation Deposit Account No. 08-3442.

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Respectfully submitted,

nicou Graham

Nicole Peffer Graham Registration No. 47,852

Attorney for Applicants

Date: 12 -29-04